

*Attributes of Jesus
in Chronological Order*
(from BigDreamMinistries.org)

Preexistent Creator, and Joy-Giver!

- Jesus was not created but has always been. He did not first arrive as a baby in a manger.
- He is the Creator. He created our world “**with joy**” and for our delight.
- Jesus is God. He has all the **same attributes as God**.
- Jesus said that He came down from heaven. It was an act of love for His creation. **He brought joy and life**.
- Sin robs us of joy. Sin is the promise of something good by doing wrong.
- When God says don’t do something, He means “don’t hurt yourself”.
- The only one that can get us out of sin is a Savior. *Hope was on the way*.

God-Sent

- **Prophecies** from the Old Testament foretold of the coming Messiah.
- **Genealogies** lead up to Jesus, from the line of David.
- **Angels** announcements that a Savior was coming to save His people from their sins. Angels appeared four times to Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. *Hope has arrived*.
- At the “fullness of time” – the timing was right, both political and geographical. There was one world language, and Roman roads made communication easier.

Lamb of God

- John the Baptist came preaching a message of repentance and baptism, to make way for the coming Messiah. When he saw Jesus coming to him, he said, “**Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.**”

- After Jesus is baptized in righteousness, the Spirit of God descends as a dove and a voice out of the heavens said, “This is My beloved Son, in who I am well-pleased.”
- Jesus now begins his ministry – both public and God-approved.
- Following His baptism, Jesus immediately goes to the desert to be tempted – so that He can sympathize with our weaknesses before starting His ministry.
- Jesus’ **first miracle is a miracle of joy and celebration** (from the Joy-Giver!) – turning water into wine at a wedding feast. Miracles are to strengthen our faith.

Messiah

- We now begin to see Jesus as the Messiah. Messiah means “**Anointed One**”. Anointing was reserved for prophets, priests, and kings among God’s people. Jesus fulfills all three.
- We start to see Jesus interacting with all people – Samaritan woman at the well, Nicodemus the Pharisee, the royal official whom he heals his son, and people from his hometown.
- **John 3:16** was first told to Nicodemus the Pharisee. But it shows that Jesus came as Messiah to save the world, not just the Jews. No man can save himself; this is the work of God.
- People don’t accept Christ because of a lack of understanding; it is because they would have to change.

Healer

- People started to believe in Jesus because of the **signs and wonders** He was performing.
- Jesus healed in specific ways:
 - He mostly healed by spoken Word, not touch. (He could heal from a distance)
 - He healed many people at once (crowds).
 - His healing was immediate.
- Jesus healed for specific purposes:
 - To prove Scripture
 - Compassion
 - To show a glimpse of Heaven (where there is no sickness or death)

Jesus is now halfway through His first year of ministry. Jesus was baptized, tempted in the desert, John the Baptist testifies Jesus is the Lamb of God, Jesus calls His first disciples, performs His first miracle at the wedding feast, cleanses the temple at Passover, meets with Nicodemus of the Jewish Sanhedrin and tells him for God so loved the world...”, proclaims He is the Messiah to the Samaritan woman at the well, heals the Royal officials son, and is rejected in his hometown of Nazareth.

*Jesus is moving toward people in His mission. Jesus loves people. The crowds are getting larger and we see the difference he is making in people’s lives. But Jesus doesn’t stay in one place. **He has come for all people.***

Equal to God

- Jesus was claiming God as His own Father, therefore making Himself equal with God. No one had called God “Father” before Jesus.
- Jesus’ **actions show his Deity**: heals on Sabbath, speaks with authority, gives life, casts out demons, backed by Scripture.
- The Pharisees grow more angry at this claim, instead of seeing Jesus for who He really is.
- Four witnesses to Jesus’ claim that He is equal to God:
 1. John the Baptist came as a messenger to pave the way for the Messiah.
 2. Jesus’ works and miracles.
 3. Jesus’ baptism and the voice of God saying “This is my Son.”
 4. Fulfilled prophecies from Scripture.

Teacher of Righteousness

- Righteousness means being right with God, which we accomplish through the Holy Spirit and not of ourselves. The Pharisees at the time were seeking glory for themselves and not for God.
- Jesus gave the greatest sermon ever preached – **The Sermon on the Mount**. It is the essence of Christianity – about the heart and for the glory of God, and not our own personal righteousness. Jesus tells us there is more to life, and emphasizes the Kingdom of Heaven.

The main points from The Sermon on the Mount:

1) **The Beatitudes** – Starts with our character. Blessed means approval from God. Blessed are those who need God, and mourn their sin.

- 2) **Be the Salt and Light.** Light dispels darkness. The only way you see darkness is by light.
- 3) **Personal relationships** – They are important to God. Preserve them. Anger is murder in our heart.
- 4) **Go the second mile, turn the other cheek** – Forgiveness.
- 5) **Love your Enemies** – Love is intentional, constantly pursuing.
- 6) **Lord's Prayer** – Store up treasure in heaven, do not put attention on yourself when you pray.
- 7) **Golden Rule** – First said by Jesus. Positive emphasis on doing.
- 8) **Do not worry** - Look at creation and how God takes care of it. Jesus the Creator.
- 9) **Do not judge** – Mourn our own sin first, need to know our sin in order to get the remedy, but do it with love.
- 10) **Don't toss pearls to swine** – Be discerning, do not give what is holy to dogs or they will trample on it and destroy. Beware of false hope.
- 11) **Keep asking, searching, knocking** – Jesus encouraged people to seek the truth.
- 12) **Narrow Gate** – We must lay everything down to enter.
- 13) **Two Kingdoms** – One of God and one not of God. Jesus said, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord' or prophesies in my name will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the **will of My Father** will enter. I will declare, 'I never knew you. Depart from Me.'"
- 14) **House built on rock or sand** – Hear the Word and act on it, so when the rains come your house will still stand.

Burden Bearer

- Everywhere Jesus went, people came to him and He lifted their burdens.
- One of the most powerful and reassuring statements ever said was said by Jesus:

"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. My yoke is easy and My burden is light." - Jesus. Matthew 11:28-30

- Jesus gives **rest for our souls (through grace)** – it is rest from not being “good enough” and rest from trying to be perfect. It is for the destitute, the overwhelmed, the burdened, the sick, the addicted, and all those who seek Him. It is not a temporary fix but a lasting rest that only Jesus offers. Jesus replaced self-righteousness with grace and self-sufficiency with rest.

Storyteller

- Jesus was a great Storyteller. He taught in parables, which is a simple story with a profound meaning. Parables used symbolism that would resonate with the people and create timeless stories.
- It also fulfilled prophecy (Matthew 13:35b and Psalm 78:2).
- The central theme in Jesus' parables is the **Kingdom of Heaven – the greatest treasure**. *Jesus was revealing a hope for the future.*

Life-Giver

- Jesus brought **life** and **hope** to the people everywhere He went.
- Jesus is our Life Giver, a **rescuer** and **restorer of people** - spiritually, emotionally, and physically.
- He rescued a demon-possessed man. He restored the health of a woman who had suffered for 12 years. He gave life back to the synagogue official's daughter. He ruled over life and nature when He calmed the storm, by saying "Peace, be still." And he sent out the twelve disciples with the power to heal and preach the Kingdom of God.

Bread of Life

- Jesus said to the crowds, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst." We must have an appetite for God, the One who truly satisfies.
- Jesus feeds a crowd of 5,000. He **cared for people** - both their physical and spiritual needs. This is the only miracle mentioned in all four gospels except for the resurrection. It must have had a huge impact!
- Jesus is shown as the **Creator** who creates food.

Son of God

- Jesus asks an important question to Peter. "Who do you say I am?" Peter responds, "You are the Christ, the son of the living God."
- **God so loved the world that He gave His only Son**, manifested in the flesh as Jesus. Jesus came into the world by the work of the Holy Spirit through His

earthly mother, Mary. As the Son of God, Jesus was – in His essence and existence – the same as God. And the Son is our Savior.

- **The Transfiguration** – Peter, James, and John got a glimpse of this glory on a mountaintop as they witnessed Jesus' earthly body supernaturally transformed to reflect His true self.

In Jesus' first 2 1/2 years of ministry, He ministered to the people, taught them, healed them, and had dinner with them. Now, Jesus begins the last 6 months of His ministry on earth, leading up to Passion Week, the Crucifixion, and Resurrection. Jesus becomes more intentional in His ministry and in His words to the Pharisees. Jesus begins to focus on who He is rather than the many miracles, healing, and storytelling from the first part of his ministry.

Light of the World

- Light dispels darkness and exposes sin. **Light is the first thing God created;** His first recorded words were "Let there be light."
- Jesus spoke to them, saying, **'I am the Light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life.'** John 8:12
- The Light of the world (Jesus) is our greatest weapon against fear and darkness. It exposes evil and those that love the darkness will run from the light.

Properties of light:

- On a dark night, you can see a candle flame flickering for up to 3 miles (unhindered)
- The light we see from the nearest star, outside of our sun, is 4.3 light years away, which is about 25 trillion miles from earth, and would take over 100 years to travel at the speed of light.
- Light is warmth and comfort. We need light to live.
- Light has no mass or weight, and can travel through an empty space, unlike sound which requires a medium to travel. *Light by itself is enough, just like Jesus.*

Provider

- The Bible is filled with Jesus' generous gifts, but He wants us to rely on Him daily for provision and direction so that we can learn to trust Him in all things. God always has our best interest in mind.
- Every day is a new day full of God's mercies, forgiveness, and love.

Good Shepherd

- Christ is the Good Shepherd, who leads us beside still waters. The **23rd Psalm** and the **Lord's Prayer** are two of the most comforting and purposeful passages in the Bible.
- Jesus is gentle, cares for us, knows us, hears us and we can recognize His voice, and gives up His life to save us.

Narrow Door

- This is one of the 7 "**I AM**" statements that Jesus makes. The door is open to everyone (inclusive), but there is only one way in to God and that is through Jesus (the door) who has paid for our salvation. You can't go around. Each person has a **decision and a deadline**.
- The central element that prevents people from going through the Narrow Door is **PRIDE**.

Resurrection and Life

- Jesus is teaching and making his way toward Jerusalem. Jesus as the **Resurrection and Life** is strengthening the faith of his disciples and followers to prepare them for the times ahead.
- Jesus brings Lazarus back to life after having been dead for four days.
- Jesus said to Lazarus' sister, Martha: "***I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies. Do you believe this?***"
- Jesus wants to increase our faith today too. *It is the most precious thing we own.*

Son of David

- As Jesus enters Jerusalem for the last time during Passover week, He is revealed as the **Son of David**. The children begin to sing "Hosanna to the Son of David". It is the final week of His ministry.
- There are no more tender words, miracles or parables, but only the sharp truth for those who do not believe. He stops to visit Mary, Martha, and Lazarus in their home in Bethany, goes to the temple for a second and final cleansing of the money changers, rides into Jerusalem on a donkey, and laments over His beloved Jerusalem. This is what Jesus does in his final week leading up to his arrest.

- Singing and shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” as Jesus triumphantly enters the city of Jerusalem is fulfillment of a **promise and prophecy**. It is the promise of the **Davidic covenant**, which says the Messiah will come from the line of David and His kingdom will endure forever. It is the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9 (humbly riding on a donkey) and Psalm 8:2 -
“Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.”

Judge

- Jesus is the final Judge. He will judge when He comes again at the **second coming**. He gives a speech about the **end times** called the **Olivet Discourse** in Matthew 24-25.
- When studying about Jesus, it is important to study the entirety of Jesus’ words and life. This includes not on the manger birth, the miracles, the wise parables and Sermon on the Mount, but also His words about heaven, hell, and what will happen at end-times. Jesus does not mince words or deceive anyone from the truth.

The Way, The Truth, and The Life

- It is the night before Jesus is to die. The air is heavy. Satan in his prideful way thinks he has the upper hand with Judas. And yet Jesus is serving and praying for "us"! He promises the disciples two things:
 - 1) He is going to prepare a place for you. (Heaven is a real place)
 - 2) He will send a Helper of the same kind. (We are never alone)
- Jesus then tells his disciples, ***"I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father but through Me."*** John 14:6.
Jesus is very clear in his teaching.

Son of Man

- **"Man of Sorrows" and "Fullness of Joy"**. This describes Jesus. Jesus calls Himself “Son of Man”. It is mentioned 80 times. The title emphasizes Jesus’ **humanity in his suffering**. He knows and feels what we are going through.
- *What do you think the world would be like today if Jesus had not come and died for us?*

Suffering Servant

- Suffering in the world is hard to understand, but Jesus suffered alongside us - willingly and unfairly, in the worst possible way, for us.
- Eternity makes up for it all - for those who have put their faith in Jesus Christ, the **Suffering Servant**, who paid for our wrongdoings.
- *This is why it is so important that we share our hope and faith with others who do not know this.*

Redeemer and Savior

- **Good Friday** is known as the day of Jesus' crucifixion and death. **This is the Gospel.** Everything about Jesus up to this point shows Jesus is a good teacher, a prophet, a healer, a miracle worker, a wise person and a good friend to sinners. But this last act shows that Jesus came to set us free from our sinful nature by paying the ransom, which is death. Sin brings about death. Jesus paid the price of death so we might have eternal spiritual life.
- Jesus spoke seven times while he hung dying on the cross, still teaching to the very end. These last words shows what transpired while He was on the cross:

Jesus' last words:

1. *"Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing."* (to those who were mocking him)
2. *"Today, you will be with Me in paradise."* (to the criminal who recognized who Jesus was and believed. Jesus has the power and authority to determine our eternity.)
3. *"Mother, behold your son, and John, behold your mother."* (to Jesus' mother and beloved disciple; thinking of others and relationships)
4. *"My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?"* (God looked away as Jesus took on the sin of the world)

Then a darkness fell over all the land and beyond Israel, as the final words were spoken by Jesus before He died.

5. *"I am thirsty."* (thirsty for God who had turned away)
6. *"It is finished."* (He finished what He came to do. The plan of salvation from the very beginning of creation was complete. He paid our debit in full.)
7. *"Father, into your hands, I commit My Spirit."* (Final act and words. God's will and complete surrender to God.)

Prophecy of Isaiah 53:

He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of suffering who knew what sickness was.
He was like someone people turned away from;
He was despised, and we didn't value Him.
Yet, He Himself bore our sicknesses,
and He carried our pains;
but we in turn regarded Him stricken,
struck down by God and afflicted.
But He was pierced because of our transgressions,
crushed because of our iniquities;
punishment for our peace was on Him,
and we are healed by His wounds. (v. 3-5)

They made His grave with the wicked
and with a rich man at His death,
although He had done no violence
and had not spoken deceitfully. (v. 9)

He submitted Himself to death,
and was counted among the rebels;
yet He bore the sin of many
and interceded for the rebels. ((v. 12b)

King of Kings

Jesus was resurrected on the 3rd day, and will **return again** to rule and reign and claim His own.

Evidence of the Resurrection

1. Women were the first witnesses. Women were not considered credible, so if the disciples were making up the story, they would not have used women as witnesses.
2. A false story was being told that the guards were sleeping and the disciples stole the body. It was not the character of Roman guards to fall asleep. The penalty was to be burned. Everyone was on high alert. All 16 guards would not have fallen asleep. And if they did fall asleep, how did they know the disciples took the body?
3. A broken Roman seal on the tomb would have meant death. None of the disciples were ever charged with the crime.
4. The stone would have had to be rolled up the hill and away from the tomb.

5. The tomb was empty and a dead body was never found.
6. All eleven disciples told the same story. None ever recanted, even at the hands of death. It is unlikely that eleven people would all agree to the same crime.
7. The burial linens from Jesus were still in the tomb. When Lazarus was raised from the dead, he was still wrapped in his linens.
8. Jesus continued to reveal himself after his Resurrection to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, in the Upper Room, breakfast by the sea, and to many witnesses and crowds of people.
9. The four eye-witness accounts of the gospels were written shortly after these events occurred. If it were not true, it would have been shut down immediately. The gospel of Luke was carefully researched from many sources.

And the testimonies of millions of people since the Resurrection who have put their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior!

Holiness with a face - A look at Jesus as a portrait of Holiness

(from Nancy Leigh DeMoss' book on Holiness)

Lived a life of total dependence on His Father, and looked to God to supply His needs and for direction.

Fully surrendered to the will of His Father. Loved the law of God and obeyed it.

Lived to please God rather than men.

His supreme motivation was to glorify God. He had no agenda of His own but to fulfill God's purpose on earth.

Exalted the eternal over temporal.

Selfless, had a servant's heart.

Available to those who needed Him.

Submissive to human authorities (parents), taught and practiced respect.

Merciful, and extended forgiveness to those who wronged Him.

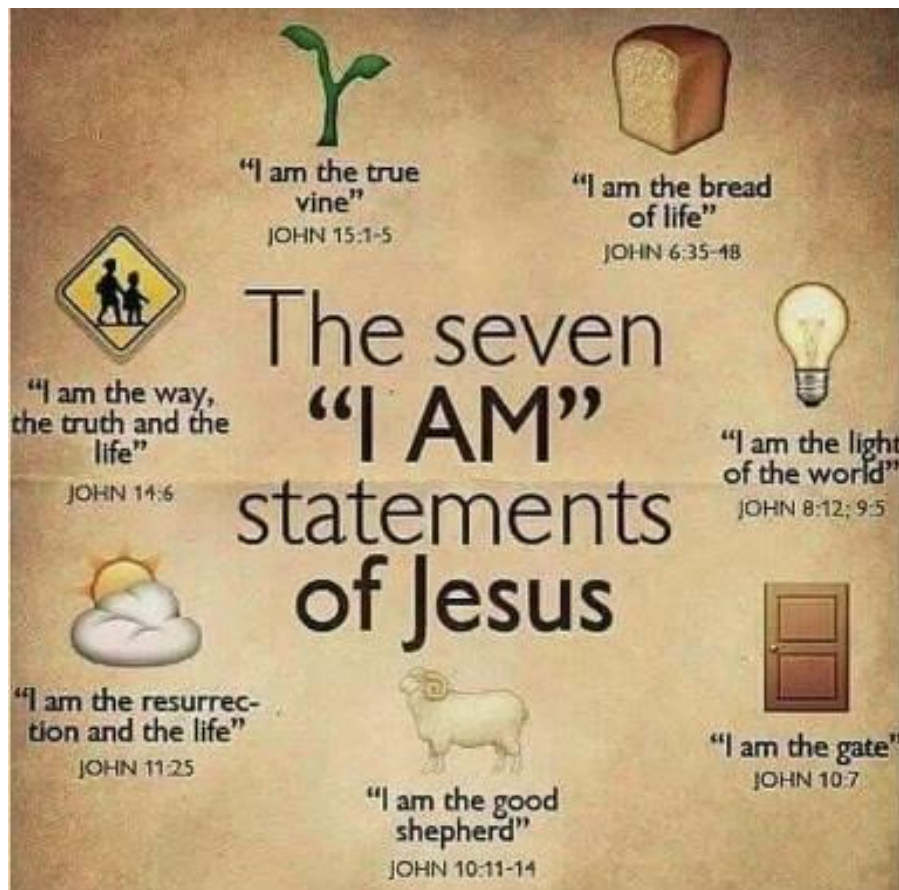
Spoke only what His Father told Him to speak, and His words came across with authority and impact.

He spoke gracious words that ministered to the needs of the hearers.

Lived a life of praise and thankfulness.

He was not competitive or jealous when other instruments were used for God's glory (such as John the Baptist).

He was filled with the Holy Spirit and manifested the fruit of the Spirit at all times. (Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Meekness, Self-Control)



**JESUS SAID TO THEM,
"GO INTO ALL THE WORLD
AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL
TO THE WHOLE CREATION."**

Mark 16:15

**AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES
in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, in Samaria, and
*in every part of the world.***

Acts 1:8